

REMARKS

Claim 14 is currently pending in this application. The recent telephone interview with Examiner Pak is hereby noted with appreciation. As discussed during that interview Claims 1-13, 16-18 and 33-37 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 15 and 19-32 have previously been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claim 14 is directed to the elected invention. Also as discussed during the interview, claim 14 has been amended to recite the following:

“An isolated polypeptide specified below under (a) or (b):

- (a) a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1; or
- (b) a mutant of the polypeptide of (a), wherein said mutant consists of one amino acid deletion, substitution and addition and wherein said mutant has the activity of stereoselectively reducing 5-acetylfuro[2,3-c]pyridine to 5-(1-(R)-hydroxyethyl)furo[2,3-c]pyridine.”

The amendment to claim 14 is for the purpose of clarification and not to limit its scope. In addition, the specification has been amended by adding sequence numbers for primers in the specification. No new matter has been added.

Since the only remaining claim directed to the elected invention is claim 14 and claim 14 has been amended as suggested by the examiner, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

In the event that the Examiner believes that another telephonic interview would advance the prosecution of this application, the undersigned is available at the phone number noted below.

Please charge any fee that is due with this response to our Deposit Account No. 22-0185, under Order No. 21581-00256-US1 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: 6/7/07

Respectfully submitted,

Electronic signature: /Burton A. Amernick/
Burton A. Amernick

Registration No.: 24,852
CONNOLLY BOVE LODGE & HUTZ LLP
1990 M Street, N.W., Suite 800
Washington, DC 20036
(202) 331-7111
(202) 293-6229 (Fax)
Attorney for Applicant